

JOSEPH THOMAS AND
MARGARET WATSON
THOMAS

Joseph Thomas was the son of Charles and Elizabeth Carter Thomas, converts to the Church in their homeland of Herford County, England. They came to the United States on the ship "Sheffield" and made their home in Nauvoo from 1841 until the mob drove the saints out. They then settled in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where Joseph was born November 12, 1846.

They crossed the plains in the Briant Jolley company, arriving in Salt Lake September, 1852, where his father was a blacksmith.

When Heber valley was settled, in 1859, Joseph's older brothers, Elisha and Charles, were among the first to settle there. Soon he came to join them. When the Blackhawk War broke out he joined the Cavalry company, with William Wall as captain, and took supplies to the Indians on the Duchesne when our people were trying to make peace, being gone eight days on the trip.

On January 7, 1867, he married Margaret Watson. They first lived at Heber, then at Hooper in Weber County. Returning later to Heber for a time, he took up a homestead on Center Creek. Here he cleared and fenced a very good farm and built a house for his wife and family. He was the father of 11 children, most of them born on the farm.

They seemed to be prospering very well when, late in February, 1886, he contracted pneumonia.

All that possibly could be done was done in an effort to save his life, but he died March 4, 1886. His dear wife was so worn out from his sickness that she became ill from the same disease and died March 18, 1886, leaving a large family without a father or mother.

Joseph Thomas was a fine, strong, healthy man, a kind father and husband, jolly and good-natured, and was respected by all who knew him. He was very kind to his family.

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BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

His wife was a good helpmate and mother. She was born July 17, 1850, at Fifeshire, Scotland, daughter of James and Janet Campbell Watson. They were among the early settlers in Heber Valley.

Their children were: Joseph W., Agnes Irinda, Sarah Elizabeth, Janet Campbell, Margaret Elinor, Jessup W., Maude, John Ernest, and Harold.

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